

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 18, 1850.

A HINT.

We hope that every subscriber, whose term of subscription is about running out, will bear in mind that by sending us five dollars he can renew his own subscription for a year, and procure two copies besides for new subscribers. Who lives in a region so unpropitious that he cannot raise two subscribers?

ADVERTISERS.

To the extent of three or four columns we can accommodate advertisers. We have a permanent circulation larger, we believe, than that of any newspaper in the city. Merchants in the East, and Western dealers, too, will find it greatly to their advantage to advertise in the Era.

CONGRESSIONAL SPEECHES.

In pamphlet form, may be had of our printers, Messrs. Buel & Blanchard. For particulars, see our advertisement, in another column.

Subscribers who do not file the Era, and have numbers 155, 162, 163, 165, 166, 167, 168, on hand, will confer a favor by remitting them to this office.

An INQUIRY lately desired us to inform when we were delivered that saying of Gen. Wm. Lenoir: "slavery ought to be abolished by law." By referring Mr. Chase's speech in last week's Era we learn all about it.

"ARE YOU SURE," asks a western subscriber, "that all your papers are mailed by Wednesday evening, so as to be in time for the Western mail which closes at that hour?" We say yes, and our friend be in doubt, we can furnish him eight or ten affidavits of the fact.

MR. HENDERSON'S ARTICLE, addressed to Mr. Atchison, appeared some time since.

CORRESPONDENTS.—Certain correspondents must allow us to edit our own paper. We think we know better than they how to provide for our numerous readers. It would be very gratifying to us, were we able to make a clean sweep at once of our pigeon-hole, but as the Era contains only a certain number of square inches we must do the best we can with our space. Meantime we suggest to those who would like to see our columns filled with speeches, grave essays, and nothing else, to remember that there are other ways than theirs to be supplied, other tastes to be gratified, and that should we adopt our paper exclusively for their notions, we should soon be obliged to depend exclusively upon their patronage.

THE PRESIDENCY AND "THE EVIL OF THE DAY."

The National Intelligencer has devoted many long editorials to various aspects of what it calls, "The Evil of the Day"—the present struggle concerning slavery. One aspect of it, looking towards the Presidency, it has neglected to notice. The Presidency is the highest prize of political ambition in this country. Few public men who have become prominent, are unwilling to be recognized as candidates for it. The Presidential term is so brief, that hardly is one canvass over before another begins; so that the country has no rest from party tumult. The game for the Presidency is in fact always going on, and, as the candidates are many, and their friends are scattered all over the country, not a few of them feeling a personal interest in the success of their favorite, it is everywhere going on.

Of course, no important question of State or Federal politics can be kept free from its maelstrom influences. The calculations of the players embrace the whole field of politics; great public questions are regarded in their bearings upon the Presidency; and candidates, in choosing their positions upon them, hardly fail to take into consideration the influence their choice may exert over their chances for that high office.

In the Era of last week we referred to the remarkable movements of Messrs. Clay and Webster, who may be regarded as rival Whig candidates. The movements of Messrs. Cass and Buchanan are no less noteworthy. In the early part of the session, Mr. Buchanan, long known as a candidate for Presidential honors, spent a month in assiduous attendance on Congress. Like Messrs. Cass, Clay, and Webster, he became profoundly impressed with alarm for the fate of the Union, and his patriotic anxiety to restore peace to our beloved country led him to commune daily with Mr. Davis of Mississippi and other Southern gentlemen respecting some feasible mode of compromise. The result was, a determination in favor of the line of the Missouri Compromise. Just about this time, the Non-Intervention doctrine of General Cass began to be called in question by Southern members of the House of Congress. Mr. Davis of Mississippi in the Senate, with other gentlemen from his section, took strong exceptions to it, and Mr. Brown of the same State in the House, with several other Southern Representatives, openly condemned it. General Cass seemed to be losing ground at the South, while Mr. Buchanan and his favorite plan of settling the controversy, were openly commended by Southern men.

In due time the Ex-Secretary departed, and not long afterwards, Mr. Cass took occasion to define his position, and bring up the subject of the Missouri Compromise. It was done ingeniously. Mr. Davis of Mississippi was enticed in regard to his construction of that policy. That compromise excluded slavery above the parallel of 36° 30', without excluding it below; that below it was intervention above the line against slavery, and non-intervention below. Would Mr. Davis accept that compromise, for the present Territories? Mr. Davis had already said, and he would repeat, that what he demanded was this, a Missouri Compromise line to the Pacific, with a specific recognition of the right to hold slaves below that line? "Ah," said Mr. Cass, "that would not be the Missouri Compromise," and then he went into an argument to show that the compromise (the one proposed by Mr. Buchanan, recollect) was not so good for the South, as his doctrine of Non-Intervention; for, while it secured Non-Intervention only below 36° 30', his plan established it in all the Territories above and below. The demonstration was complete. Mr. Buchanan was followed—his Missouri Compromise was no more talked of—Mr. Cass had out-generaled his opponent—and now, in the language of the X. correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, (understood to be Mr. Grund, who is doing all he can to vilify every statesman true to Liberty, and magnify every statesman, compliant with slavery) "the General has recovered his ground."

What thinks the Washington Union, which congratulates General Cass on the fact that Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Clay, and the most conservative portions of the Whig party, have come over to his platform. Nothing is more certain than that Mr. Buchanan's month's mission in Congress has proved of no effect. General Cass, it is now understood by his sanguine friends in Congress, will be the nominee of the Baltimore Convention, in 1852. Already these friends have begun the secret canvass, and leading Democrats in the several States are appointed to every variety of motive, including contingent promises of future Executive favor, to lend them a helping hand.

Of course, it is necessary to dispose as speedily as possible of the slavery question now before Congress, and to do so in a way not to offend the South, without whose support General Cass might ultimately fail.

We ask the People of the free States, what can be expected of a Congress subjected constantly to such influences? As an accommodation to certain Whig and Democratic gentlemen who are ambitious for Presidential honors, and to promote the views of certain members of Congress anxious for future Presidential favors, the great struggle for Freedom in the Territories, in which the People of the free States have been so deeply and generally engaged for the last three years, is to be decided adversely to their will, solemnly and repeatedly declared!

Now, we predict, with undoubting confidence, that not one of the Presidential aspirants, through whose efforts the Jeffersonian policy of Slavery-Restriction has suffered detriment, will ever reach the prize for which he has bowed to the behests of the Slave Power, and consented to hazard the destinies of the millions who are to people the vast Territories of this Union.

THE COMPROMISE COMMITTEE.

Our readers will be deeply interested in the proceedings of the Senate respecting the organization of a Compromise Committee. The design of it is now palpable enough. California is ready for admission as a State. The People of the country demand her admission; a large majority of both Houses of Congress is in favor of it. Not a single decent reason has been given why she should not be admitted. And yet the Slavery men, aided by Messrs. Webster, Cass, Dickinson, Bright, and Whitcomb, from the free States, are playing every art, to compel a reference of the question of her admission to a Compromise Committee, for the undignified purpose of connecting it in one bill with the organization of Territorial Governments for the Territories. They know that they should take up separately the bill for the admission of California, they can move to amend by incorporating provisions for Territorial Governments without the proviso, and then the sense of the Senate could be fairly obtained upon a course. If the motion failed, the proof would be complete that a majority of that body was against the association of the two questions. If it succeeded, the great object aimed at would have been fairly accomplished. Every honest, sensible, fair-minded person must see that this is the mainly, legitimate way of obtaining the sense of the Senate.

Again: these pro-slavery men know that, should they fail to connect the two questions, it would influence the fate of neither in the Senate. The bill for the admission of California is sustained by a strong majority; and it is ascertained beyond a doubt, that bills for the establishment of Territorial Governments, without the proviso, will also command a separate measure, a majority of the votes of the Senate. The entire vote of the Southern delegation, (excepting the two Delaware Senators, and the votes of Messrs. Webster, Cass, Dickinson, and two or three more Democrats from the free States, will be given to them. Why, then, should not the majority in the Senate pursue its objects by the ordinary methods of legislation? Why not meet the minority in open Senate, upon equal terms, and, after a free discussion of each particular measure, decide it by votes honestly and intelligently given? Ah! there is an ulterior object to be accomplished. The majority in the Senate seek, by a course of legislation, to influence the action of the House. "Send us," says a distinguished politician of the House, "separate bills for the admission of the State of California and the organization of Territorial Governments, and we shall not be able to connect them; the former will pass, the latter will probably fail. But, unite them in the Senate in one bill, send us that, and we shall be able to force it through—and thereby to pervert the policy of Non-Intervention recommended by General Taylor!"

Mr. Clay and Mr. Webster, the great Whig leaders, lend themselves to this plot, and the former even assumes the lead in it—assumed as much, perhaps, by a concealed hostility to the Administration as by any other motive. They must know that in pursuing such a course, they are proceeding against reason, and put at serious hazard the bill for the admission of California, while, should they succeed in their plan, the question of slavery-extension would continue to agitate the country. But one thing would come to them—the reflection that they had been able to baffle the policy of the Administration on the great question of the day!

There is nothing strained in this suggestion. Did not Mr. Webster declare that the nomination of General Taylor was a "not fit to be made"? Did he ever say a word in hearty support of the nomination? Could Mr. Clay, after publishing a manifesto of reasons why he should regard the candidate of the Whig party, forgive the politicians who differed from him in opinion, and professing to be his patriotic ally, and then, in the same breath, support a candidate for Presidential honors, spent a month in assiduous attendance on Congress. Like Messrs. Cass, Clay, and Webster, he became profoundly impressed with alarm for the fate of the Union, and his patriotic anxiety to restore peace to our beloved country led him to commune daily with Mr. Davis of Mississippi and other Southern gentlemen respecting some feasible mode of compromise. The result was, a determination in favor of the line of the Missouri Compromise. Just about this time, the Non-Intervention doctrine of General Cass began to be called in question by Southern members of the House of Congress. Mr. Davis of Mississippi in the Senate, with other gentlemen from his section, took strong exceptions to it, and Mr. Brown of the same State in the House, with several other Southern Representatives, openly condemned it. General Cass seemed to be losing ground at the South, while Mr. Buchanan and his favorite plan of settling the controversy, were openly commended by Southern men.

And yet these men, associated with Southern Democrats, receiving daily the homage and praise of the Washington Union, for their patriotic opposition to the policy of the President, claim to be his friends, and would resent as an insult the charge that they are dividing and destroying the Whig party, of which he is the acknowledged leader. If he is so friendly to the compromise, it must be exceedingly obvious.

How different the course of Mr. Benton! He scorns all indirect—all petty artifices of legislation. He has no disappointed ambition to revenge. He is intent upon the admission of California, as a State, in accordance with the precedent of sixty years. That question settled upon its merits, he is in favor of all bills for the Territories of California, and of the Territories of Mexico, acting upon them separately on their merits, and passing them, we are sorry to say, without the proviso. He will have nothing to do with log-rolling; the distant sense of the Senate, on each proposition, he would obtain, honestly, fairly, by the usual parliamentary means. If, in pursuing this course he be voted down, he will submit, without resorting to extraordinary parliamentary expedients to baffle the will of a majority. But when this majority seeks to obtain an unfair advantage—when it would organize a committee, with a view to fusing different measures into one bill, at the hazard of defeating the most important of them all, for the sake of compelling men to vote for some things they conscientiously disagree to vote for, and to force others they wish to secure, he feels himself justified in baffling such a dishonest procedure by all the means which Parliamentary rules have put in his power. He has taken his stand—he has announced his purpose—and he is not the man to give back. The majority in the Senate must agree to his mind to deal fairly, or he will stand chargeable before the country with the great day in the public business which must otherwise ensue. Mr. Clay, when he announced his remarkable change of policy in relation to California, stated his main reason to be, a desire to avoid delay in bringing in California. If this desire still exists, his course is plain. Let him abandon the attempt to entrap the minority of the Senate, and agree to take up in their order, the bills relating to California and the Territories, laboring by the ordinary procedure to connect the several questions, by fair voting in open session. Let Mr. Webster, too, reconsider his course. He pro-

poses to be in favor of the admission of California; he declares that he attaches very little importance to a Compromise Committee, not supposing it probable that it will do any good; but he is disposed to please those who are anxious for the organization of such a committee. Very well; since his mind is so equally balanced, suppose he show a little courtesy to the large and respectable minority who are opposed to any article or expedient which must prevent Senators from voting their real sentiments. And since his object is to facilitate public business, suppose he relinquish the attempt to force a measure which he now knows must delay public business.

We are sorry to see Mr. Whitcomb of Indiana recording his vote in favor of this Compromise Committee. He is a practical man—and we are content, not what motive, except a willingness to gratify General Cass, could have induced him to support a measure so well calculated to embarrass action on a question which, we are content, he is anxious to have settled with the least possible delay.

Mr. Foote, the projector of the Committee, must now see, we are sure, the inexpediency of persisting in the measure. In urging it, he has shown good temper, and a great deal of firmness, and he has succeeded in obtaining a vote on his proposition—but that vote must have convinced him that no good can be accomplished by the two of Compromise, raised in opposition to the will of nearly one-half of the Senate, and of all the Senators from the free States, except five. Nor will he relinquish the project, and be content to pursue his object by the ordinary methods of legislation, meeting upon equal terms the opponents of his views? Certainly, this would be more in accordance with the frankness and boldness which mark his proceedings in the Senate. We would prefer to see him stand up for his views, and let the majority of the Senate decide for or against him, than to see him resort to the expedient of a compromise committee, which is nothing more than a device to keep the question of the admission of California, and the organization of Territorial Governments, from coming before the Senate.

THE WILMOT PROVISION AND ITS NORTHERN SUPPORTERS.

The New York Tribune, observing a Telegraph-Despatch in the New York Express, announcing the prospect of an adjustment of the slavery question on principles of compromise, through the efforts of Cass, Webster, and others, has the following comments upon the intelligence:

"Presuming, from all we hear, that there is some foundation for this bulletin, we have a few words to say about it. We are yet to be convinced of the propriety of conceding the admission of California with any other question whatever. California is a State which Congress can admit or reject, but cannot remand into a Territorial condition. If she is not admitted, she will still be a Territory, and she is perfectly able and willing to take care of herself. But she is in danger of being rejected. All her friends are in the war, and whenever that can be reached she will go through each House by a vote of nearly two to one, without compromise. She can be reached only by daylight, and ask no odds now. Why, then, incline her in any compromise?"

"New Mexico has her hand in the tiger's mouth, unhappily, and we have long been convinced of the propriety of conceding her admission to the Northern 'Democracy,' as they call themselves, would vote to organize her with her ancient and rightful rights, (as they will vote to admit Texas) we would not do so. California is a State which Congress can admit or reject, but cannot remand into a Territorial condition. If she is not admitted, she will still be a Territory, and she is perfectly able and willing to take care of herself. But she is in danger of being rejected. All her friends are in the war, and whenever that can be reached she will go through each House by a vote of nearly two to one, without compromise. She can be reached only by daylight, and ask no odds now. Why, then, incline her in any compromise?"

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the North, and through it to bring Public Sentiment in that quarter to bear upon Congress. We took Mr. Gillingham's Letter to Mr. Foote, concerning the policy to be pursued by the South, as a text to show that there was an organized movement on foot to unite the Southern members without distinction of Party, for the purpose of making the question of slavery extension, a test in the election of Speaker and other officers, of securing to the Extensionists the absolute control of both Houses of Congress, and of compelling the members of the old parties from the North to renounce or waive the Proviso.

Such a plot, we argued, called for corresponding union among the opponents of Slavery Extension. But, the warning was unheeded. The Press and the People of the free States seemed alike indifferent. What was the result? The Principle of Slavery-Extension obtained a complete triumph in the organization of the House, and in the construction of the Committee of the Senate, although, in the former body the representatives of the free States had a clear majority of forty-nine, and in the latter, the members of the free States, with the aid of the Delaware Senators, had a majority of four!

The Speaker of the House was elected as a Slavery-Extensionist, and every Committee between the House and the Senate, which could act in relation to slavery, was so organized as to promote the policy of non-restriction.

From that moment we apprehended death to the Proviso. Men, who in the vital matter of organization, would vote so as to place that measure at the absolute mercy of the slaveholders, could not be relied upon when the question should come up on its merits. The Party consisted of those who had controlled them in the former case, and became the supporters of the Administration; many of them having adhered to the Proviso merely from motives of policy, not felt released from it by the change of policy in the Whig Party; some too shrank from the prospect of being left alone to bear the burden of a measure odious to the South. The votes taken in the House during the early period of the session revealed the growing defection.

The Free was sympathetic, the People were indifferent. The South was united; her Representatives and Senators in Congress piled all the arts of intimidation and flattery. What could be expected? The silence of the press, the apparent absence of excitement in the North encouraged still further defection on the part of Northern members. Since the seizure of the Wilmot Provision had provoked scarcely a murmur of disapprobation in the Whig Party, why not strike a final blow at Free-Soilism, by setting the whole question at once, without a word about the Proviso? It did seem at first as if this were rather a hazardous movement for a Whig Statesman, but subsequent events show that whatever he may lose personally, by want of adroitness in his strategy, his example will find too many imitators.

What, for example, shall we say of the New York Tribune? Read the article quoted above—and tell us, wherein practically, it differs from the policy of Mr. Webster. The editor is greatly concerned about New Mexico—he fears that a large portion of her territory may be absorbed by Texas; he would consent to abandon the Proviso, to organize the Territories of Utah and New Mexico, on the basis of Non-Intervention, provided Texas consent to relinquish her claim! If she will not do this, then, he is in favor of buying out her claim, but thinks it is not fair in that case to give up the Proviso too. Well—there is this difference between the Tribune and Mr. Webster—the latter is in favor of buying out Texas and selling out the Proviso too, while the former is willing to let the Proviso, or to buy out Texas, but thinks it rather hard to be called upon to do both!

And it is by this chattering policy that the power of the Slaveholders is to be confronted, and their demands bafled? Give up the Proviso in New Mexico and Desert, provided Texas will relinquish her claim to a portion of the former! What shadow of distinction has it in its proposed abandonment of it? It is not to be believed that it is necessary, nor is it necessary to like Mr. Webster? If it be in the judgment of the editor a mere bill abstraction, then, in offering to give it up, as an equivalent for the abandonment by Texas of her claim, he is trying to make a sort of wooden-utemg bargain for the sake of a few millions of dollars. The Slaveholders have no quarrel with the Proviso, but they are weary of this kind of chattering about the cause of Human Rights. The Slaveholders have no quarrel with the Proviso, but they are weary of this kind of chattering about the cause of Human Rights.

The New York Tribune is one of the prominent champions of the North, equal to any of its class in ability and zeal. The editorial copied above is a fair specimen of the tact, agility, and spirit with which it has advocated the cause of Freedom.

How it may strike others, we know not; but the temper and policy indicated by it, and the kindred policy of a majority of the Whig and Democratic Journals of the North, equal to any of its class in ability and zeal. The editorial copied above is a fair specimen of the tact, agility, and spirit with which it has advocated the cause of Freedom.

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THE SELF-CONSTITUTED GUARDIAN OF THE DEMOCRACY OF NEW YORK.

The Washington Union has resumed its superintendence of the New York Democracy. It reads out of the party the New York Evening Post, the old, long-established, most able advocate of Democratic Principles, and commends to the patronage of all genuine Democrats the New York Globe, a paper of recent date, which has changed proprietors and editors thrice, and principles twice, in the course of one year! "The Post" it says, "is fanatical, bigoted, narrow—a Free-Solier, and an Abolitionist!"—its narrow politics are execrable!

And while it undertakes to regulate the Democratic press of New York, with equal modesty it assumes to determine what is Democracy, and who are Democrats.

"New York," it says, "has been too long immersed in dim obscurity. The course of one of her favorite and favored sons (Star of the Morning) has not fallen, never to rise again!" It is essentially contributed, with the fanatics of the State, to paralyze the Republican party, and to destroy the moral force and the political power of the largest State in the Union. But our Democracy returned to Congress out of her whole representation of thirty-four! What a singular phenomenon! But the Democracy of New York must now see that this lamentable falling off is owing to the disappointed ambition and vindictive passions of her own favored son.

Seeing their error, we trust the good and true men of the State will now exert themselves to correct it.

This same paper, that refuses to recognize the New York Evening Post, Preston King, Martin Van Buren, and the Democracy of New York, has been very highly gratified at recovering here the thousand and one scraps of information which float by so rapidly on the flood of newspapers, as well as many others we should else have no means of knowing.

Early Confessions of Christianity. By the Rev. W. Ingraham, D.D. New York: Appleton. For sale at Farnham's, Washington, D.C. This is an exceeding neat little volume, of near 300 pages, containing five picturesque and animated sketches of the early conflicts of Christianity with Judaism, Grecian Philosophy, the Licentious Spirit of the Age, Barbarism, and the Pagan Mythology. It forms the first of a series of three, which may ultimately be completed—thus introducing the peculiar "conflicts" of each age of Christian History. There is not much show of original learning, but rather an abundant and skilful use of the illustrations offered in Literature, Art, &c., and the references are rather to popular than learned works. It is of rhetoric too highly colored, perhaps, for strict and sober historic truth. This is all the better for the author's purpose, which is rather to give a hint and impulse towards the more full understanding of the subject. He writes from the point of view of the Episcopal Church.

NORTON MONTAGU; OR, A YOUNG CHRISTIAN'S CHOICE. By C. B. Mortimer. Published and for sale at the above.

POSTHUMOUS WORKS OF THE REV. THOMAS CHALMERS, D. D. Vol. IX. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1850. 12mo, pp. 554. For sale at the above.

This volume contains "Preliminary Remarks on Butler's Analogy, Paley's Evidences of Christianity, and Hill's Lectures on Divinity, with two Introductory Lectures, and four Addresses, delivered in the New College, Edinburgh." We are inclined to think, taken by itself, by far the most valuable of these volumes. It gives a very complete view of Dr. Chalmers's style of thought as an instructor in Theology. It consists of the "prelections" and hints which he had written out in short-hand for actual use in the lecture-room, and seems to give in an exceedingly condensed form the substance of his opinions on almost the whole range of theological instruction. It consists of no less than eighty-three distinct sections or chapters. Some single passages which we have read on Butler's Analogy seem to us the most favorable specimens we have seen, both of his thought and manner.

MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF THOMAS CHALMERS, D. D. By his son-in-law, Rev. William Hanna, L. L. D. In three vols. Vol. I, 12mo, pp. 514. Published and for sale at the above.

The narrative of this volume includes what may be regarded as the period of growth and preparation. I have done little more than arrange, and weave into a continuous narrative those materials which his friends already possessed, and which friends and correspondents have kindly presented." These words from the preface indicate what we are to expect from the present volume. It extends to the year 1814, when Dr. Chalmers was of the age of thirty-four. It would be superfluous to enlarge on the moral and intellectual interest of such a life.

This volume corresponds nearly, in general style, with the very neat edition of the "Posthumous Works;" and the rapid but not careless perusal we have given it interests us very much as we come to know the man more thoroughly. Some of his remarks on the effect of the poor laws and the condition of the poor, are valuable and suggestive as anything we have seen in the same compass; and this is only one indication of the great energy, sagacity, and constant activity of his mind. His is a life abundantly worth knowing by every one.

CHOMER: A SEARCH OF A FANTASY. Description of THE UNIVERSE. By Alexander von Humboldt. Translated from the German by E. C. Otis. In two vols. Vol. I, 12mo, pp. 375, 387. (With Index to each volume.) Published and for sale at the above.

The moderate price (seventy-five cents per volume) at which a work so crowded with information, and of the very first authority in science, can be procured, reconciles us to a style of type and paper not quite worthy of it. This translation claims to be more complete than any other, and reduces the measures, &c., referred to, to the familiar English designations. So much for the merits of the edition. The nature of the work is like that of Humboldt, the condensed and methodical result of more than half a century of indefatigable labor and study, needs no further recommendation from us than to state that it can be procured in so cheap and neat a form. The translator makes only a very slight and modest allusion to the nature of the work, which appears to be of no so small interest and value—giving serviceable information, and explaining statements which might be obscure to one not well versed already in the natural sciences.

SKETCHES OF MINNESOTA, THE NEW ENGLAND OF THE WEST, WITH INCIDENTS OF TRAVEL IN THAT TERRITORY, BY BUREAU THE SUMMER OF 1849. In two parts. By E. S. Seymour. With a map. 12mo, pp. 281. Published and for sale at the above.

The information contained in this volume appears to have been very industriously gathered during his travels last year in the region described. It is in good season for the numerous persons whose thoughts turn westward, and seems to contain whatever is most desirable to know. The map is on a sufficiently large scale, and it is well executed. The activity, industry, and abundant resources of the country are well exhibited. A few sketches are given, presenting rather a disabbling view of the Indians who border on the advancing tide of settlement. In justice to both author and readers, we should say that the single purpose of the book is to present as great a mass as possible of trustworthy information; and any ambition as to style or narrative is made secondary.

NARRATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES EXPEDITION TO THE RIVER JORDAN AND THE DEAD SEA. By W. F. Lynch, U. S. N. Commander of the Expedition. With a map from a Survey of the River Jordan, and a new and corrected edition. 12mo, pp. 312. Philadelphia: Lea & Blanchard. 1850. For sale at Taylor & May's.

A full notice of Lieutenant Lynch's Narrative has already appeared in the Era; and we need do no more at present than to call attention to being in print, and to say that it is a plain and readable type, and the revision the work has undergone has removed some parts which have been the subject of pretty severe criticism. We commend it as a

very pleasant account of a novel and remarkable tour of exploration.

THE ANNUAL OF SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY, OR YEAR-BOOK OF FACTS IN SCIENCE AND ART. Boston: Gould, Kendall & Lincoln. 1850. 12mo, pp. 392. For sale at the above.

We have referred with much interest and pleasure to several portions of this very valuable volume. It comprises eight separate departments of knowledge, besides Patents, Obituary, Scientific Publications, and two indexes; besides a portrait and biographical sketch of Professor Agassiz. It is such a book as was more wanted than perhaps any other in the chronicles of knowledge, and seems to be very faithfully executed. The admirable account we have before alluded to, of the Britannia Tubular Bridge, is condensed into five close-printed pages. One is surprised at the immense amount of matter accumulated in a single year; and glad to find it methodized and given in a convenient form. We are sorry to see that a grossly exaggerated statement is here admitted (p. 275) as to the strength of the marble used in the Washington Monument. It is by no means a stone of first quality; but the editors may easily satisfy themselves, by their own showing, that it will have to sustain a pressure of only one-third of what it will bear; or, allowing for the slope of the obelisk, less than one-fourth. We regret, too, that one of the departments is enlarged by an unauthorized and imperfect report of one of the meetings of the National Institute. (P. 333.) The statement given is correct in the main, but the value as well as interest of such a report depends on its strict accuracy. We hope the Institute will, as contemplated, publish its own proceedings in an authentic form. Our examination of the work shows us nothing else to except to, and we have been very highly gratified at recovering here the thousand and one scraps of information which float by so rapidly on the flood of newspapers, as well as many others we should else have no means of knowing.

EARLY CONFESSIONS OF CHRISTIANITY. By the Rev. W. Ingraham, D.D. New York: Appleton. For sale at Farnham's, Washington, D.C.

This is an exceeding neat little volume, of near 300 pages, containing five picturesque and animated sketches of the early conflicts of Christianity with Judaism, Grecian Philosophy, the Licentious Spirit of the Age, Barbarism, and the Pagan Mythology. It forms the first of a series of three, which may ultimately be completed—thus introducing the peculiar "conflicts" of each age of Christian History. There is not much show of original learning, but rather an abundant and skilful use of the illustrations offered in Literature, Art, &c., and the references are rather to popular than learned works. It is of rhetoric too highly colored, perhaps, for strict and sober historic truth. This is all the better for the author's purpose, which is rather to give a hint and impulse towards the more full understanding of the subject. He writes from the point of view of the Episcopal Church.

NORTON MONTAGU; OR, A YOUNG CHRISTIAN'S CHOICE. By C. B. Mortimer. Published and for sale at the above.

POSTHUMOUS WORKS OF THE REV. THOMAS CHALMERS, D. D. Vol. IX. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1850. 12mo, pp. 554. For sale at the above.

This volume contains "Preliminary Remarks on Butler's Analogy, Paley's Evidences of Christianity, and Hill's Lectures on Divinity, with two Introductory Lectures, and four Addresses, delivered in the New College, Edinburgh." We are inclined to think, taken by itself, by far the most valuable of these volumes. It gives a very complete view of Dr. Chalmers's style of thought as an instructor in Theology. It consists of the "prelections" and hints which he had written out in short-hand for actual use in the lecture-room, and seems to give in an exceedingly condensed form the substance of his opinions on almost the whole range of theological instruction. It consists of no less than eighty-three distinct sections or chapters. Some single passages which we have read on Butler's Analogy seem to us the most favorable specimens we have seen, both of his thought and manner.

MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF THOMAS CHALMERS, D. D. By his son-in-law, Rev. William Hanna, L. L. D. In three vols. Vol. I, 12mo, pp. 514. Published and for sale at the above.

The narrative of this volume includes what may be regarded as the period of growth and preparation. I have done little more than arrange, and weave into a continuous narrative those materials which his friends already possessed, and which

